

### ABSTRACT

A nucleic acid molecule for detecting a nucleic acid molecule is provided which is a partially double-stranded nucleic acid molecule consisting of (a) a single-stranded nucleic acid molecule complementary to the nucleic acid molecule to be detected and (b) one or two single-stranded nucleic acid molecules that hybridize with part of the single-stranded nucleic acid molecule (a), wherein the region of the partially double-stranded nucleic acid molecule which assumes a single-stranded structure is complementary to a region comprising the recognition site in the nucleic acid molecule to be detected. Slight differences in nucleotide sequences can be easily recognized by using the nucleic acid molecule as a probe.